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October 21, 1982

RECEIVED

OCT 27 1982

E.P.A. - D.L.P.C.
STATE OF ILLINOIS

RECEIVED

ILL. E.P.A. - D.L.P.C.
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Kenneth P. Bechely
North Region Manager
Field Operations Section
Division of Land/Noise Pollution Control
Environmental Protection Agency
1701 South First Street
Maywood, IL 60153

RE: 19780303 - Will County - Lemont/Land and Lakes

Dear Mr. Bechely:

I would like to thank you for the informative telephone conversation we had several days ago regarding Land and Lakes Landfill which is located across the highway from the White Fence Farm along Joliet Road.

As I indicated to you, some concerned citizens have given me certain information regarding the landfill including Arro Laboratories, Inc. report of the soil. After I discussed this matter with you, I met with Mr. James Zelko of the Will County Health Department. We reviewed his inspection reports which indicated that the only trouble they had on occasion with Land and Lakes was the blowing of trash and the depth of the daily cover. Mr. Zelko did review the Arro Laboratories, Inc. report of which I am enclosing a copy. Neither he nor I knew where the sample was taken. However, it appeared to be extremely high in metallic content with the addition of PCB's. We telephoned the head chemist of the Will County Health Department to discuss this matter with him. He was also surprised that any given sample could come up with the chemical makeup that this one did.

Upon further investigation, I discovered that apparently two individuals went upon the site and collected the sample from the center of a landfill from material that was lying on the top. I learned that this material apparently came from Pilot Brothers. This would explain the high metallic content in the analysis by Arro Laboratories. However, it doesn't explain the PCB's contained therein.

Kenneth P. Bechely
October 21, 1982
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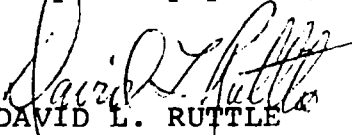
Obviously the two individuals who entered the property of Land and Lakes were not invited. Therefore, I doubt that they went there during Land and Lakes hours of operation. I must assume that they entered the property while Land and Lakes was not in operation because the sample allegedly came from the surface of the landfill. I can only conclude that this material was being used for cover rather than clay as is required. What concerns me is the fact that this combination of chemicals in the Arro report would probably only normally be found in a landfill where hazardous wastes are being dumped. I understand that Land and Lakes uses this material to stop the blowing of papers. I think consideration should be given as to whether Land and Lakes should be permitted to continue to dispose of this material on their site even if it is for the limited purpose of preventing trash from blowing around the site. According to the terms of Experimental Permit No. 1976-17-OP as supplemented by Permit No. 1981-92, the Land and Lakes Company is only allowed to handle general refuse. It appears from the Arro Laboratories report that the Pilot Brothers material seems to go beyond the common sense definition of general refuse.

I might recommend that possibly a representative of your agency could take several samples of the soil for the purpose of analyzing the same. If the report proves that the landfill is not dangerous and that there are no toxic wastes being dumped there, this would greatly comfort residents of the Village of Romeoville. If the report, however, shows that dangerous wastes are being dumped at this landfill site, further action should be taken by your agency.

I would like to again thank you for the time you spent discussing this matter with me and considering this correspondence.

I am,

Very truly yours,


DAVID L. RUTTLE

DLR:paa

Enc.

Copy to: Mr. George DeFrench
Village Manager
Village of Romeoville



Telex 723421 UAR JOL

P.O. Number
Date Received May 6, 1982
Date Completed June 15, 1982

ANALYSES

SAMPLE COLLECTION DATA

* Sample was not homogeneous, duplicate test run

I certify that I am familiar with the information contained in this report and that to the best of my knowledge and belief such information is true, complete, and accurate.

A. G. Roketa
A. G. Roketa, Manager
Environmental Division

Terese M. Laciak
Laboratory Manager

Date June 15, 1982

Testing is in accordance with procedures outlined in the newest editions of:
Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Waste Water
ASTM Standards, Part 31, "Water, Atmospheric Analysis"
Methods for Chemical Analysis of Water Wastes, EPA Water Quality Office